

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
INFORMATION REPORT

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(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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1. Military and Industrial Installations in Varnsdorf (051/F87):

[redacted] a large and detailed city plan of Varnsdorf, published by the city administration in 1941, from which a simplified 3:1 sketch has been prepared (see enclosure # 1). On the plan [redacted] following points of interest: 50X1 50X1

- A. Military barracks (former hospital) housing approximately 500 men wearing red (infantry) shoulder boards and armed with rifles, sub-machine guns and LMG. Apart from buildings used as billets, the barracks compound contains provisions and ammunition stores. The main entrance into the compound, guarded by sentries, is from the western side.
- B. Area adjacent to Pt.A on western side serves as a military training ground. Recently some newly arrived 200 troops have been put under tents there. [redacted] 30 pyramid-shaped tents (approximately 4 x 4m) arranged in two rows of 15 tents each. 50X1
- C. Three unidentified factories.<sup>1</sup>
- D. Police HQ (building # 470 on main square). There are eight young and two older VB (Public Security) members. Two of them are always on night duty.

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STATE	X	ARMY	#X	NAVY	X	AIR	X	FBI		AEC		ORR	Ev
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(Note: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#").

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- E. Branch factory of "Velveta, n.p., tovarny na samety a plyse" (Velvet and plush factories, national enterprise). There are several "Velveta" factories in Varnsdorf,<sup>2</sup> producing various textiles (Stoffe und Tuchwaren), 80 per cent of which are marked for export. They work from 0400 to 2200 hours and are guarded by plant militia. (Pt.E formerly belonged to A.G.Froehlich & Sohn.)
- F. "Varnsdorfske strojirny, n.p." (Varnsdorf Machinery Works, national enterprise). This plant produces conveyor belts, elevators and bridge construction parts. The factory is guarded by plant militia. (Pt.F formerly belonged to Neumann & Slavik.)<sup>3</sup>
- G. "KP" (sic) (formerly Wagenfabrik Neef & Stolle).
- H. "Elite, n.p., tovarny puncoch" (formerly J.Kunert & Soehne). Produces hosiery, mainly for export. The plant works day and night shifts and is guarded by militia. While Kunert used to employ up to 10,000 workers, the present number of employees is about 1,000.<sup>4</sup>
- I. "Naveta, n.p."<sup>5</sup> (formerly Kamitz & Kny). Production: spare parts for textile machinery. The Varnsdorf "Naveta" is a branch factory of the "Naveta" plant in Mseno nad Nisou (051/026). Director is Cervinka (fnu), his deputy Vodicka (fnu). The factory works two shifts and is guarded by plant militia.
- J. Main "Velveta" plant (formerly J.G.Haebler).
- K. "TOS, n.p. Varnsdorf"<sup>6</sup> (Machine-tool factory, formerly A.Plauert). A plant of a nation-wide "TOS" (tovarny obrabecich stroju) concern. Produces type 80, 100 and 130 drills for the USSR. The factory works day and night shifts. Its cadre (personnel) officer is Petru (fnu).
- L. Varnsdorf RR station.
- M. "Varnsdorfska armaturka, n.p." (Varnsdorf Armature Plant, national enterprise, formerly Bertram Pils).<sup>8</sup> The plant produces steam armatures (Dampfarmaturen) and pump valves. The factory is guarded by plant militia.
- N. "Armaturka" branch factory (formerly F.Zimmer & Erben, A.G.).
- O. "Velveta" branch factory (formerly Brueder Richter),
- P. Military barracks (formerly Joh.Goldberg factory) housing a labor unit<sup>9</sup> (Arbeitskommando) comprising some 200 "politically unreliable" soldiers. They wear black shoulder boards and their task consists mainly of building barbed-wire obstacles along the state border. They use five two-ton, tarpaulin-covered Skoda trucks.
- In addition the unit has one 1935 small Tatra sedan. All these vehicles are usually parked in front of the barracks. The main entrance into the barracks is from the southeast and is not guarded. In the courtyard piles of bricks, timber and other building material.
- Q. "TOS" branch factories<sup>10</sup> (formerly Zinn Engels & Co., and Rich.Raupach).
- R. "Velveta" branch factory (formerly Eichler & Sohn).
- S. Building site of what is believed to be new military barracks. By August 1955 five large buildings were almost completed.

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T. "Velveta" branch factory (formerly Brueder Richter and H.Graf).

U. Czechoslovak - GDR state border.

V. Rivulet Mandava.

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2. Miscellaneous information:

a. The number of Varnsdorf inhabitants dwindled from 25,000 before the war to the present 8,000, of whom some 500 are Germans.

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b. [REDACTED]

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c. [REDACTED] the present one-track RR line between Liberec (051/G16) and Ceska Lipa (051/F75) was to be double-tracked in the near future.

d. [REDACTED] freight trains passing through Varnsdorf have lately all been heavily loaded.

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1. [REDACTED] Comment. [REDACTED] on the city plan 18 factories, five of them identified with the letters VEL ("Velveta") and nine others with other recognizable abbreviations. Three factories (Pt.C) were left unidentified. As there are (according to the 1955 Telephone Directory) nine "Velveta" plants in Varnsdorf, it is quite possible that the three factories marked as Pt.C on attachment # 1 belong to the "Velveta" concern.

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2. [REDACTED] Comment. The 1955 Telephone Directory lists the nine Varnsdorf "Velveta" factories at the following addresses:

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Main plant: Nymburska 1321 (identified as Pt.J)  
 Plant # 1 : Palackeho 2012  
 Plant # 3 : Karlinska 1543  
 Plant # 4 : Maslerova 2247  
 Plant # 5 : Dolni Podluzi 146  
 Plant # 6 : Dolni Podluzi 143  
 Plant # 7 : Trida cs.letcu 786 (identified as Pt.R)  
 Plant # 8 : Stalinova 498 (identified as Pt.E)  
 Plant # 9 : Bratislavaka 2235

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3. [REDACTED] Comment. This is the main plant of "Varnsdorfske strojirny, n.p." in Konevova Street 2165. The 1955 Telephone Directory also lists a branch plant in Rioni Street 1812 (see Pt.Q, Field Comment 10 to this report).

4. [REDACTED] Comment. The address of "Elite" listed in the 1955 Telephone Directory is Varnsdorf 1733 which was identified as the western plant of Pt.H.

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5. Comment. The 1955 Telephone Directory lists "Naveta, n.p., vyroba nahradnich dilcu, zavod 07" at Bratislavská Street 987 which would place it about 150 meters south of Pt.I identified as "Naveta".
6. Comment. Four "TOS" factories are listed in Varnsdorf by the 1955 Telephone Directory. Their addresses are:
- Main plant: Gottwaldova 913 (identified as Pt.K. Zitavska ulice was apparently renamed Gottwaldova)
- Plant # 06: Ricni 1774 (assembly shop) (identified as western plant of Pt.Q)
- Plant # 07: Hrbetovni 1277 (repair shop)
- Plant # 03: Mladoboleslavská (foundry)
7. Comment. The numbers probably mean drill diameters in millimeters.
8. Comment. "Varnsdorfska armaturka, n.p." is listed in the 1955 Telephone Directory at Karla IV. Street 1746 which was identified as Pt.M. No branch plant is listed, which, however, does not automatically mean that description of Pt.N as another "Armaturka" plant is erroneous.
9. probably means a TP (technical battalion).
10. Comment. This is the western plant of Pt.Q, identified as the former Zinn Engels & Co. factory at Ricni Street 1774. The eastern plant of Pt.Q is a branch factory (provoz II) of "Varnsdorfske strojarstva, n.p." (formerly Rich.Raupach), Ricni Street 1812

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